GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:343
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2000
INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS
K. MURALEEDHARAN

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any scheme for developing and strengthening the infrastructure required for Primary Schools in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the target fixed for the purpose during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENTREFERREDTO IN REPLY OF THE LOKSABHASTAQRRED QUESTION NO. 343 FOR 18.04.2000 REGARDIN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS BY SHRI K MURLEEDHARAN.

(a) and (b) : The responsibility for provision of infrastructural facilities for primary schools mainly rests with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. The Central Government hasalso launched Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Operation Blackboard, Restructuring and Reorganisation of Teacher Education and District Primary Education Programme (DPDP)in order to bring about substantial improvement in the facilities being provided for primary education.

Under the Scheme of Operation Blackboard()B), financial assistancewas provided for teaching learning equipment (TLE) to all primary schools existing as on 30.09.1986, and for salary of additional teachers appointed by States/UTs in single teacher primary schools. Provision for a third teacher, where enrolment exceeds 100 in a primary school, is made under the expanded OB Scheme. Keeping in view the importance of primary school buildings, funds are also released for construction of school buildings by Ministry of Rural Development out of the savings of Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (earlier Jawahar Rozgar Yojana).

The scheme of Restructuring and Reorganisation of Teacher Education provides for financial assistance to States for setting of District Institutes of Education & Training (DIETs) to organise academic and resource support to elementary education teachers.

District Primary Education Programme(DPEP) is currently inoperation in 219 districts in 15 States with the funding shared between Government of India and Stats in the ratio of 85:15respectively. It provides for improvement of infrastructural facilities in primary schools and setting of Block Resource Centres (BRCs) and Cluster ResourceCentres (CRCs)to enable professional guidance to primary school teachers. DPEPalso finances appointment of additional teachers in the new schools opened under the programme and for additional teachers in existing schools on account of increase in enrolment. A grant of Rs. 500/- per teacher is provided for teaching learning aids and consumbles. Besides, a grant of Rs. 2000/- per annum is also provided to eachschool through Village Education Committees for improvement of school facilites.

(c) : In so far as OB Scheme is concerned funds are released toStates/UTs on the basis of requirements projected in their proposals. As such, no target has been fixed. During the Ninth Plan, till 31.03.2000, 48,153 posts of teaches for primary schools have been sanctioned. Besides, Rs. 10,000/- has been released as a special assistance for TLE for each of the 12,633 primary schools affected by the recent super- cyclone in Orissa. During the NinthPlan the focus on Teacher Education Scheme will remain on consolidation and progressive operationalisation of the 451 DIETssanctioned so far and to expand the reach of DIETs upto 500 Districts inthe country. As regards DPEP, the project period ranges between 5-7 years and is not conterminus with the FiveYear Plans. The targets are fixed for the duration of the project. The project envisages construction of 34,984 school buildings for new and existing schools, construction of 38,832 additional classrooms, repairs to 29,266 school buildings and provision of toilet and drinking water facilities to 90,520 schools. It also aims to establish 3412 BRCs and 17616 CRCs.